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HALIBURTON COUNTY

Tuesday, November 28, 2000
Vol. 117 No. 33
\$1 including GST

O'Reilly wins riding for third time



ERIK MARTENSSON/Echo

As the final polls showed Liberal MP John O'Reilly had once again won the riding of Haliburton-Victoria-Brock thanks to classic vote splitting, his opponents, including Conservative Laurie Scott, above, arrived at the Lindsay Legion to wish him well.

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

It's a hat-trick of federal election victories for Liberal incumbent John O'Reilly as he skated his way to another win in Haliburton-Victoria-Brock on Monday evening.

O'Reilly narrowly defeated rivals Pat Dunn of the Canadian Alliance and Progressive Conservative Laurie Scott in his bid for a third term in Ottawa.

Unofficial results show O'Reilly winning with 16,564 votes or 34 per cent, Dunn running a close second with 15,505 votes or 32 per cent and Scott at 30 per cent with 14,426 votes. Rick Denyer of the NDP was a distant fourth with 2,396 votes and five per cent of the vote.

Extremely nervous at the beginning of the evening O'Reilly was noticeably relieved with his victory.

"I feel very good. It's always nice to win," he said. "It's too bad there has to be losers. I know in a close election now I have to look at making sure I represent all the people."

O'Reilly's third consecutive election victory in a row solidifies the Liberal's power in the former Conservative stranglehold. Nationally the Liberals dominated the election, easily winning a majority with the Alliance maintaining their status as official opposition.

O'Reilly's closest competitor was clearly forlorn with his party's performance.

"I'm disappointed. We worked hard for five weeks," said Alliance candidate Dunn. "But it just goes to prove if the right wing keeps on splitting the vote we're going to keep on electing Liberals. The numbers have been the same now for three elections. I don't think Laurie did any better than Lorne Chester did. As long as we continue to split the vote in that manner this will be the result."

Dunn's fortunes, like that of his Alliance's in Ontario, were dashed by an ineffective campaign that saw the party tarnished by leader Stockwell Day's views on issues like Creationism and Abortion and the party's flip-flops on referendums and the single 17 per cent tax rate. Day's abandoning of the "Agenda of Respect" and the western-based party's connection to two-tier health care spelled the end for voter sympathies in Central Canada as shown by their two seats east of Manitoba.

While O'Reilly praised all of his oppo-

See **Gun control** page 6

Businesses get sell job on eco-tourism

CATHY OLLIFFE

Special to The Echo

How to succeed in business in the Highlands: find the market, create the product, then sell it back to them.

That was just one pearl offered up to 100 or so entrepreneurs, most in the business of small business, at the 6th annual Adventure Tourism and Ecotourism Conference held at the Frost Centre.

Presented by the Haliburton campus of Sir Sandford Fleming College, the event featured speakers who are recognized experts in the business of ecotourism and adventure marketing. According to the college, in 1995

See **Market** page 4

Secondary teachers appear set to ratify new contract with board

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

A tentative agreement on a new contract has been reached between the Trillium Lakelands District School Board and District 15 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF).

The agreement was reached last Thursday after approximately 19 days of full bargaining. Secondary school teachers in the region have been working without a contract since August 31.

Details of the settlement will not be released until it has been ratified by the two parties. Both trustees and teachers are expected to vote on the agreement on November 28.

OSSTF Chief Negotiator Andy

Simpson says "we believe that it will be ratified yes. We are recommending that the members ratify it."

The board's Nancy Payne is also confident trustees will approve the deal. "It would likely be ratified as of Tuesday night. I think that's a reasonable assumption."

Simpson says both sides worked hard during many lengthy meetings to come to the arrangement.

"I think the parties worked well. We know them, they know us. We were working to get a deal that we both thought would be ratified."

If approved the agreement will cover approximately 450 teachers in Haliburton and Victoria Counties and the District of Muskoka.



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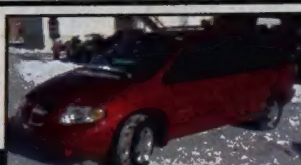
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Special delivery to hunt camp

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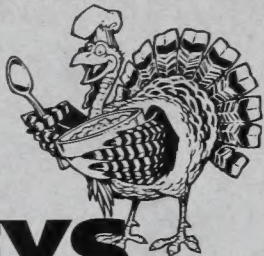
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Hiedi and Nickie would like to wish Nancy of Nancy's Flowers congratulations on her 25th Anniversary.

All the best
Love H. & N.



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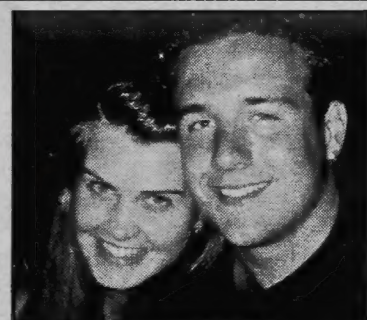
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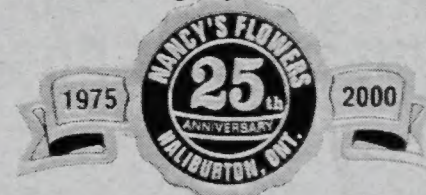
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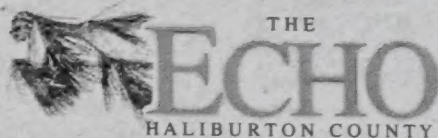
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Highlander of the Year

Teacher Dave Mowat recognized for spearheading Drag River Rehabilitation Project in Haliburton

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

The man who was chosen as this year's Highlander of the Year accepted the honour by deflecting praise to all the people who have helped him transform the portion of the Drag River that flows through Haliburton village into a source of pride for the community.

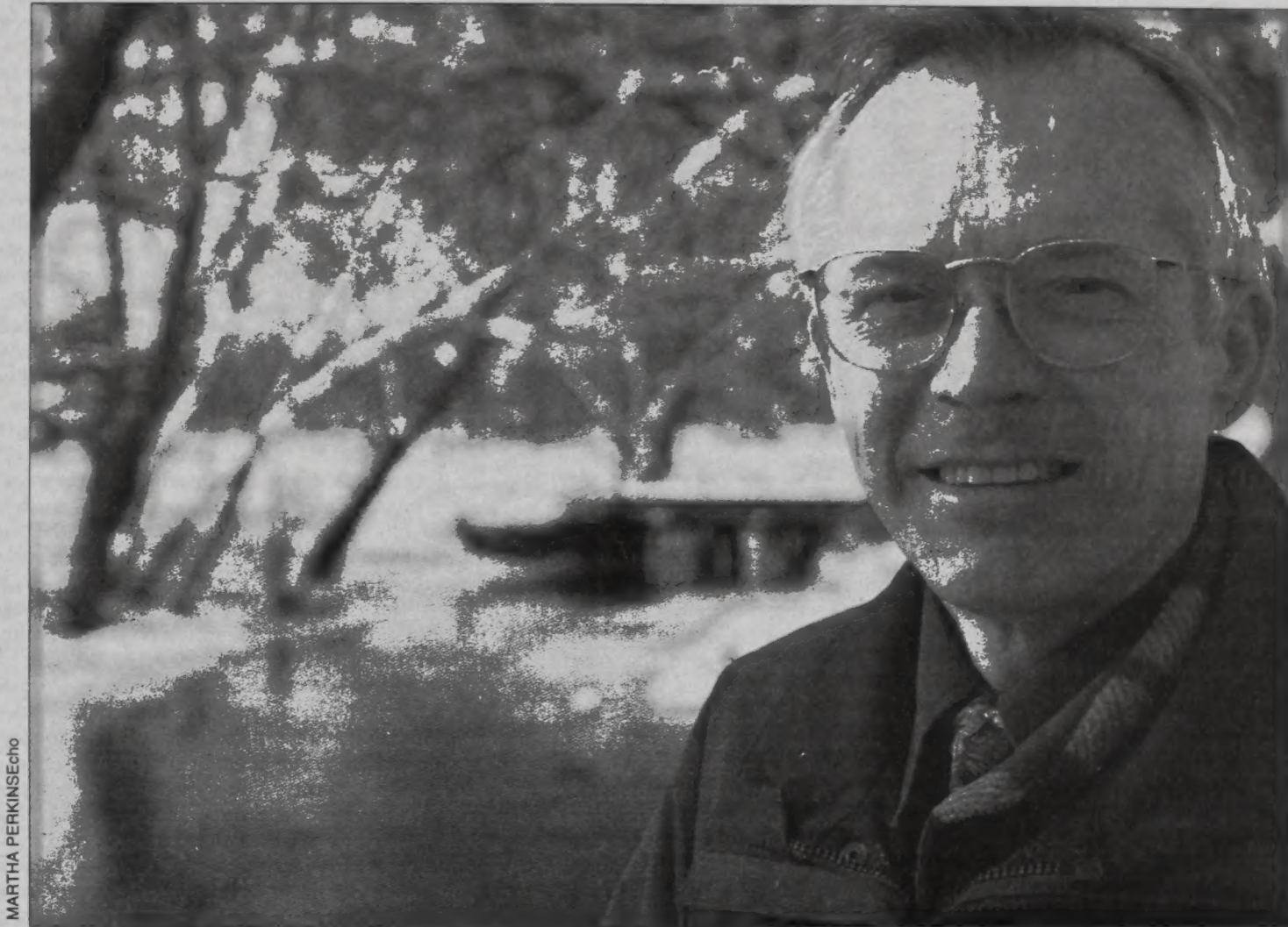
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While some of the work was done during the school day, Mowat also spent hundreds of volunteer hours organizing the project and working with the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Haliburton County Development Corporation to successfully apply for money to make it all possible. Those grants also gave dozens of students work over two summers.

And as well as all the contributions the project has made to tourism and the environment, "he left students with values they'll have for the rest of their lives," Fearrey said.

"If Dave Mowat were a professional wrestler, he'd be considered 'the total

package'," he quipped.

The list of people Mowat thanked in his acceptance speech included:

- his wife Bonnie
- HHSS's Gary Brohman, "my principal and coach"
- all the students, past and present, "who have allowed me to work with them"
- Dave Flowers, the MNR's fisheries extension biologist, "our mentor and advisor"
- MPP Chris Hodgson, "our essential, caring and very effective voice at Queen's Park"
- Andy Campbell, the HCDC manager and "our congenial and knowledgeable contact with the federal government"
- Sir Sandford Fleming College campus director Barb Bolin, "our strong sup-

porter in the arts community"

- Dysart et al administrator Donna McCallum and all the municipal employees who have been "our patient advocates"
- fellow steering committee members Murray Fearrey, Christopher Greaves, Bill Chandler, Ron Draper, Derek Little, Peter Schleifenbaum and Steve Payne
- volunteer community facilitator Wayne Wood, "very much the man who gets the job done. His contributions to the Drag River Project have been pivotal to its success"
- all the business people who donated supplies and who are all important to the overall success
- and to the Chamber of Commerce for promoting the Highlands, including the Drag River, as "a natural work of art".

Silver Eagle's hospitality earns resort Business of the Year honour



Larry Tupling and Marj Kennedy of Silver Eagle Resort accept a plaque for Business of the year from Connie Simms, who says their Eagle Lake establishment exemplifies what the Highlands is all about - family atmosphere, wonderful view and welcoming hospitality.

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If pride can be measured with tears, then Marj Kennedy was one of the proudest people in the Highlands when she and her partner Larry Tupling were awarded the distinction of being named the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce's Business of the Year.

Highly emotional, the owner of Silver Eagle Resort said in was an incredible honour to be given the award, especially in the year 2000.

"This is wonderful for me," she told the 100 people gathered at the annual dinner, held Wednesday at the Wigamog.

Looking around at the group, Kennedy recognized so many of the people who had given her strength through the years of owning the Eagle Lake business and watching it grow. Those people included Andy Campbell, manager of the Haliburton County Development Corporation, Dennis Casey, president of the Chamber's board and her best friend Rosalind Bagg.

"You're all a big part of the strength

that keeps me going."

Tupling agreed that "it's been so much fun being involved with tourism."

With Silver Eagle and the county's efforts to promote itself, "it's like watching a baby grow," he said. Referring to some of the Chamber's new initiatives, he congratulated its board and staff and said "you guys have a tiger by the tail."

Silver Eagle was nominated by a past president of the Chamber, Connie Simms.

She noted it had been established more than 70 years ago and has had five owners. She was compelled to nominate the cottage resort this year because of all the work Kennedy and Tupling have done, including the addition of The Bullfrog Bistro, a hit with guests and the wider community.

"They have done wonders out there," Simms said. To be in business that long, she noted, "they must be doing something right and that something is hospitality. You just feel so good when you go there. They really welcome you, it's family oriented, and the view is wonderful - this is what Haliburton is all about."

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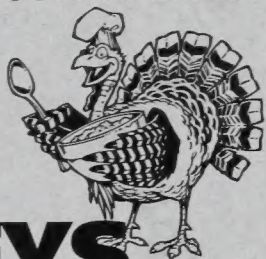
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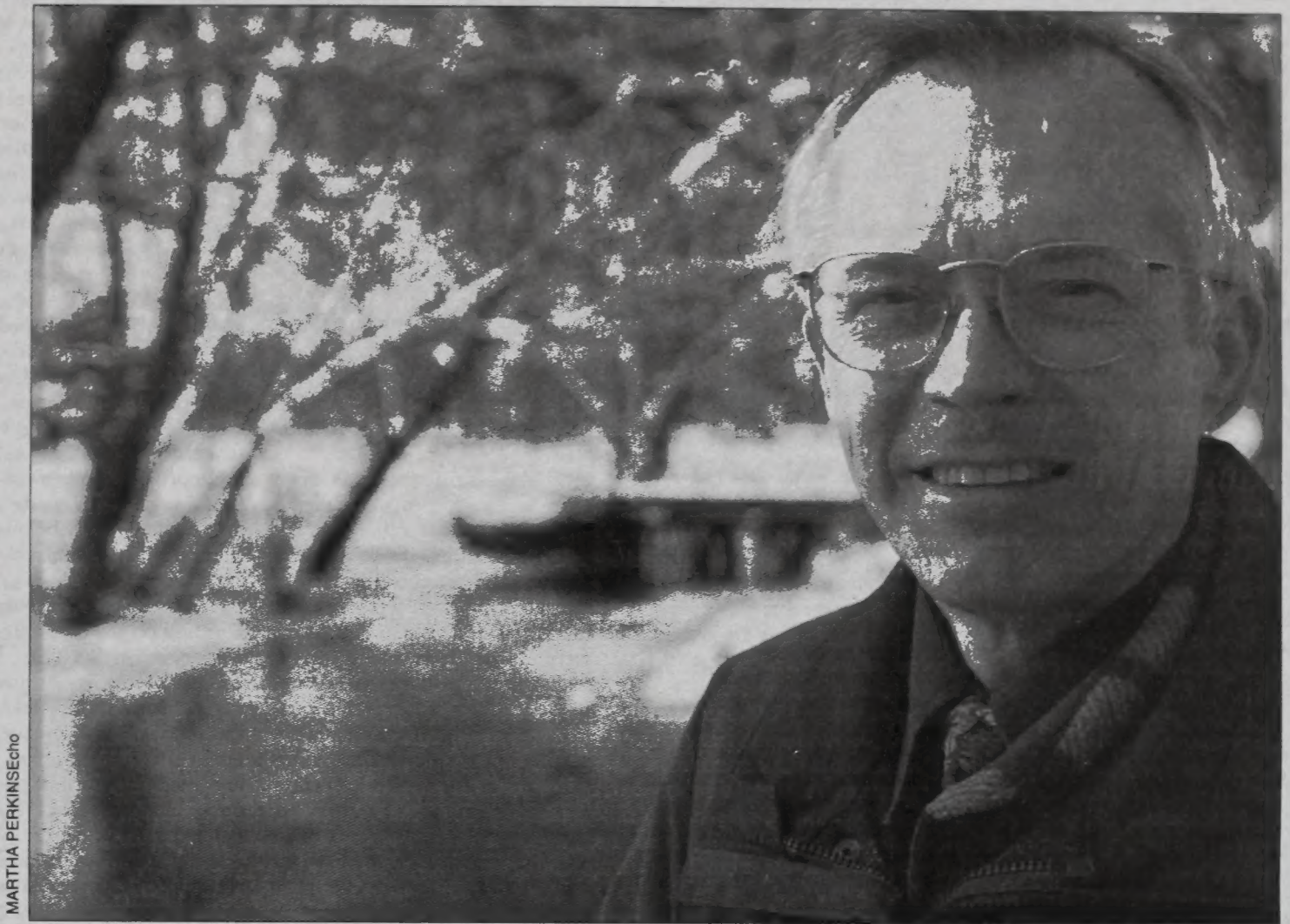
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Highly emotional, the owner of Silver Eagle Resort said in was an incredible honour to be given the award, especially in the year 2000.

"This is wonderful for me," she told the 100 people gathered at the annual dinner, held Wednesday at the Wigamog.

Looking around at the group, Kennedy recognized so many of the people who had given her strength through the years of owning the Eagle Lake business and watching it grow. Those people included Andy Campbell, manager of the Haliburton County Development Corporation, Dennis Casey, president of the Chamber's board and her best friend Rosalind Bagg.

"You're all a big part of the strength

that keeps me going."

Tupling agreed that "it's been so much fun being involved with tourism."

With Silver Eagle and the county's efforts to promote itself, "it's like watching a baby grow," he said. Referring to some of the Chamber's new initiatives, he congratulated its board and staff and said "you guys have a tiger by the tail."

Silver Eagle was nominated by a past president of the Chamber, Connie Simms.

She noted it had been established more than 70 years ago and has had five owners. She was compelled to nominate the cottage resort this year because of all the work Kennedy and Tupling have done, including the addition of The Bullfrog Bistro, a hit with guests and the wider community.

"They have done wonders out there," Simms said. To be in business that long, she noted, "they must be doing something right and that something is hospitality. You just feel so good when you go there. They really welcome you, it's family oriented, and the view is wonderful - this is what Haliburton is all about."

Market a 'product' and tourists will come

from page 1

tourists spent \$3.4-trillion travelling the globe. More and more are seeking exotic, educational adventures off the beaten path – whale watching off Cape Breton Island, mountain climbing in the Rockies, white water canoeing on the Nahanni River, trekking through old forest in the Queen Charlotte Islands. Yet, they want to travel responsibly, conserving the ecology and well-beings of communities they visit.

Ecotourists like these have spawned a growing niche market for activity travel to natural settings and non-Western cultures all over the world.

Greg Belland of Travel Alberta has a pretty fair idea who these ecotourists are and how to attract them, not only to Alberta, but to anywhere in the country, including the Highlands. It was Belland who told the crowd about a businessman who discovered a group of people, who enjoy riding expensive Italian motorcycles, talking about their passion in an internet chat room. He had "found a market."

The next thing he did was set up a business where these people could come to his province, rent these bikes from him and tour the area. He had "created a product."

Then he went back into the

chat rooms, talked about his business and "sold it back to them." He was making money hand over fist before he knew it.

Belland said it's not enough to just open a canoe trip business and hope people will come. Business people have to know why people come to an area and what experience they are seeking.

"So what is the business – what is the product we should be marketing? I believe it is not the airplane ride, the sea kayak, the bicycle or the bed and breakfast. As a marketer I must not confuse the means with the end and that is not an easy thing to do if I got into the business in the first place 'cause I could canoe or wrangle a horse," he explained. "The canoe or cycle trips are the means: the end result for the client is a desire for an experience which is authentic, enriching, educational and memorable."

Belland believes we live in an experience economy and the demand for experiences will continue to grow. The internet allows business people to find markets and develop product specifically for that market. It has mail lists of all descriptions and types – it's up to business people to find a list to determine what people need, create an experience for them, then sell it back to them using the same list.

"This is not just niche market-

ing, it is developing travel product which meets the needs of the client whether they are independent travellers or tour groups," Belland said. It may be marketing to motorcycle and cuisine aficionados. It may be an independent travel experience to watch birds or whales or to learn history. It may be a family gathering based on history like Le Congress Mondial de L'Acadie or genealogy like the Gathering of the Clans. It may be a business meeting with a fly-fishing trip built in or a trip with grandpa to visit the National parks in Western Canada.

"The possibilities are as varied as the market and can be made accessible on the net," Belland said.

What he said next was even more interesting to some of the people at the conference. "A second added benefit to experience-based travel is that this traveller will generally pay more. He will also seek more value and demand quality. Hence the importance of adding value such as interpretive programming, knowledgeable guides, interesting accommodation, unique activities, attractions and high quality service. These have become expected and the client will pay for this quality and value."

"One operator told me he makes the product reassuringly expensive," Belland said. "The

marketer who does not insist on quality and who does not have a passion for giving unique and authentic experiences to his customers does not have sustainability in mind."

Sustainability of the resource, he said, is fundamental to success as it is the basis upon which the experience takes place. The marketer and adventure provider who does not advocate the protection and presentation of the ecological and cultural resource will not have anything on which to base the future.

"Funny," Belland said, "how an industry so dependent on the fundamental assets of environment and culture cries 'woe is me' to ecological integrity yet is silent on support for establishing more parks, reserves, cultural sites, galleries, festivals and museums – all the stuff the client desires and spends money experiencing."

Even parks themselves are jumping on the marketing bandwagon.

Greg Maud of Ontario Parks spoke to the conference about the success his organization has enjoyed since marketing has become an important part of the parks business. Not that Ontario Parks has become crassly commercial. Maud said, "finding the right balance is very important."

There are 272 provincial parks in Ontario, covering an area roughly the size of Nova Scotia.

They attract 9.4 million visitors yearly and generate about \$1 billion in revenue. Since 1996 the provincial government has allowed Ontario Parks to keep the revenue it generates, forcing it to behave more like a business.

"We had to become more self-reliant," Maud said. "I feel that Ontario Parks is still learning. Our marketing initiatives are at an early stage. But what we're doing seems to be working."

One of the main changes has been partnering with businesses like Pepsi, Kodak and Canadian Geographic. Pepsi, for example, has provided new vending machine equipment, juice, soft drinks and bottled water to every park store in the province. The pop and juice was something visitors said they wanted – the Pepsi partnership has created millions in new revenue for Ontario Parks.

Other changes have been advertising in the parks guide and a whole line of merchandise like hats and t-shirts in parks stores. The merchandise, while profitable, isn't the biggest revenue-generator for Ontario Parks. However, it does provide visitors with a tangible "memory" of the parks experience.

Like Belland said, giving tourists an experience they will always remember is the key to business success.

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Renumeration set, structure changed

County council joins amalgamation preparations

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

As nine municipalities get ready to become three on January 1, 2001, county council is also planning how it will adapt to the local amalgamations.

At present, county council is composed of Reeves from each of the existing 10 municipalities.

In January, that will change. County council will be the reeve and deputy-reeve from the three new municipalities – Minden Hills, Highlands East and Sherborne, Stanhope et al – plus Dysart et al, which wasn't part of the amalgamations.

Both Dysart and Minden Hills directly elected their deputy. In Sherborne, Stanhope and Highlands East, their councils will choose the deputy reeve.

The new county council will choose the county's warden at its inaugural meeting on January 16 at 7 p.m..

At last Wednesday's county council meeting, council voted on new remuneration rates.

The warden will get \$15,000 a year, up from \$10,000. County councillors will get paid \$4,800 a year. All will be paid \$100 for each day meeting and \$50 for night meetings of outside boards and committees. (They do not get paid twice for county council meetings.) The mileage rate is 35 cents a kilometre.

"This recognizes more truly the change in the role of

the upper level of government," said Snowdon Reeve Ross Rigney. "This is a delayed recognition (of the work involved.)"

The only councillor to vote against the changes was Cardiff Reeve Suzanne Partridge.

As well, council agreed that for a three-month trial period, it will move to a committee of the whole structure. Instead of having individual committee meetings, such as roads and personnel, council will meet as a whole on the fourth Wednesday of the month. If the full day is not enough to discuss all matters, then council has reserved the second Wednesday of the month for unfinished business.

Warden Jeanne Anthon asked incoming CAO Gary King what he thought of the new structure since he's

the former CAO of Gravenhurst, which already uses the committee of the whole structure. She wondered if it allowed for adequate debate, and he said it does.

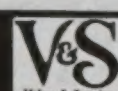
"Typically," King said, "when committees hold separate meetings, there's a tendency to debate in the time provided. (With committee of the whole), you can deal with more issues in less time if you restrict the time of debate... It allows you to deal with a large volume of work efficiently and effectively."

One detriment, he added, is that council can feel a loss of control since politicians are accustomed to a more hands-on management of various departments.

Anthon said such "sense of ownership has some benefits so the experiment (with the new structure) will be interesting."



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Gun control "passé" issue: O'Reilly

from page 1

nents for running a clean campaign he showed his disappointment with the Alliance's tactics.

"Basically their campaign from the national point of view it was negative and in this area all he (Dunn) talked about was gun control which is kind of passé. I think I can do more for gun control than someone sitting in the opposition."

First-time Tory campaigner Scott had a respectable showing in her father's former riding. While her campaign did better than expected and fed off leader Joe Clark's momentum it just didn't have enough to overcome the Liberals or Alliance. The Conservatives were also damaged by the strength of the Alliance siphoning off a significant portion of the traditional right-wing vote.

"Laurie ran a good campaign, it's her first campaign," said O'Reilly complimenting Scott. "My advice to her is get involved in some organizations and broaden your resumé and go for it. She could have a future down the line."

NDP candidate Rick Denyer couldn't improve on the party's dismal showing in the '97 election. With just five per cent of the vote the NDP were simply not a factor.

In Haliburton County the Liberals carried the most votes closely followed by the Tories. While Dunn fared well in a few polls in Highlands East, the rest of Haliburton was a tight race between O'Reilly and Scott.

The victory leaves the door open for O'Reilly's planned bid to become Speaker of the House of Commons and plans for parliamentary reform.

O'Reilly is also promising to bring up the subject of parliamentary reform in the House.

O'Reilly also promises to keep the money and programs flowing into the riding.

"I'm going to take a run for speaker probably, it depends on what the Prime Minister wants me to do if he has some other job that he wants me to work at."

O'Reilly vows he will continue to work as Chair of the Central Ontario Caucus and promises to do all he can to protect and enhance the region.

Asked if whether the rumours that Liberal leader Jean Chrétien would retire halfway into his mandate O'Reilly balked at giving an opinion.

"I don't know when I'm going to retire and I don't know when he's going to retire, I'll leave that up to him and I'll leave mine up to me."

ERIK MARTENSSON/Echo



ERIK MARTENSSON/Echo



In many ways, it was a familiar scene at the Lindsay Legion where Liberal MP John O'Reilly held his victory party on Monday night. When it was announced that he had once again won the riding, he was congratulated by his opponents, Rick Denyer of the NDP, above, and Pat Dunn of the Canadian Alliance, below. Both Denyer and Dunn ran against O'Reilly in the last federal election, and their ranking was the same, with the Alliance coming in second and the NDP fourth behind the Conservatives.



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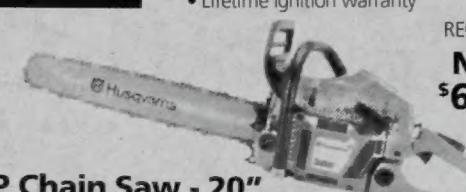
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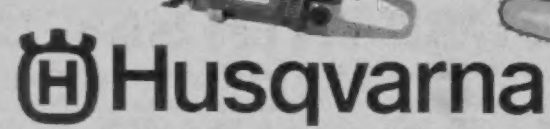
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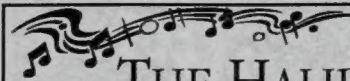
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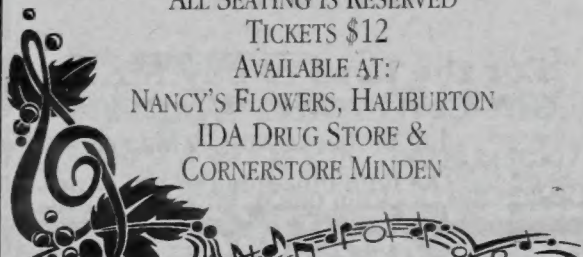
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Haliburton woman killed, sisters injured in car accident

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

A Haliburton woman who was killed in a car accident last Tuesday is being remembered for the way her faith compelled her to reach out to others.

Myra Scholtes was the bass guitarist in the Christian musical group His Own and she was also a palliative care volunteer at Extendicare, sometimes arriving at four in the morning to take her place beside a dying resident.

"She was a beautiful person inside and out," says Barb Fawcett, a close friend and fellow member of His Own. "She definitely knew the Lord very well."

The 67-year-old Lake Kashagawigamog resident had spent the day with three of her sisters shopping in the Oshawa area. They had just dropped off one of the sisters, Carol Stephen, at her home in Port Perry and were heading back to Haliburton.

Scholtes was driving her sister's 1999 Ford Taurus east on Highway 7A when she lost control in snowy conditions at the intersection with Durham Regional Road 57.

The car spun and struck a westbound 1991 Ford Taurus driven by 26-year-old Jennifer Swain of Peterborough.



Myra Scholtes

Fawcett said that police say with this type of collision - most of the damage was at the back of the car - it is not common to have a fatality. An autopsy is being done to determine the cause of death, which may have been a deep laceration of the spine.

Scholtes' two sisters were seriously injured in the accident. Sixty-nine-year-old Mabel Everall had a massive concussion and was taken to

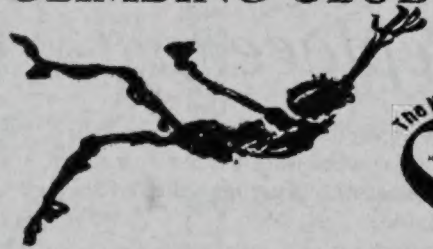
St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. She was transferred to Haliburton Hospital, where she is still a patient. Seventy-two-year-old Faye McDonagh broke her ribs, which punctured her lungs. She was taken to Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto. She is still in coma but there is no paralysis.

The sisters' maiden name was Roberts and they have many Highlands connections. Myra and her husband Ted retired to Haliburton after living in the Port Perry area and she was very close to her siblings. For many years, they nursed their late mother, Millie, at her home.

Before moving back to the Highlands, Myra Scholtes sang in a country and western band. Fawcett said she had an amazing understanding of music, which she brought to the group His Own. The band did a church service of contemporary music once a month and performed at other functions as well.

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Making a difference

YOU SEE THEM OUT THERE every spring and fall: teenagers, walking to and fro along the boardwalk which connects the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School with the heart of Haliburton village. They're not skipping school, they're at school, only these days, their classroom is the Drag River.

Oh sure, the cynics are right. For some students, the science class at the river is just a way to get outside, to avoid doing hard time at a desk. But it's when you talk to the other students, the ones more likely to be the majority, that you realize how passionate they are about their involvement with the rehabilitation of the Drag River.

"We're making a difference."

"We're showing we care about the environment."

Such passion in teenagers is to be welcomed and nourished, and have no fear, it's real. The HHSS students

echo

editorial

martha perkins

involved in the project believe deeply in the importance of what they're doing. And in this case, the school, the community and the environment benefit from such firmly held beliefs because what the teenagers are saying is true:

they are making a difference.

Tens of thousands of provincial and federal money have been poured into the river. With that funding several environmental concerns have been addressed, such as the leaching of oil into the river, the siltation (and subsequent loss) of the walleye spawning bed, the erosion of the river banks and the loss of fish habitat. The funding has also created a beautiful walkway along the river, and the new observation platform has already been used for the site of at least one bride and groom's wedding pictures.

It's unlikely that funding would have been forthcoming had it not been matched by the students' volunteer labour and initiative. Instead of just learning about the environment, they were willing to physically work towards improving it. With the students providing the labour, the Ministry of Natural Resources providing the guidance, the community providing moral and financial support, what else could the upper levels of government do than get behind the project?

Today, after more than two years – and two summers of work for local teens – the project has almost been completed. The river part that is. In coming years, students will monitor the success of their predecessors' efforts by collecting data about the quality of the water and the fisheries. They'll take that data, analyze it and, if necessary, determine what needs to be done to continue the project.

When the teacher who spearheaded the project, Dave Mowat, accepted the Highlander of the Year award in recognition of his efforts, the first thing he did was acknowledge all the people who should be sharing in the praise. It's taken a lot of people to accomplish so much, but Mr. Mowat should indeed be congratulated for seeing that it could be done and working towards it.

Who knows how many Highlands students will now study resource management, or go on to be the biologists and scientists who tackle other environmental concerns? What they've learned is that science is a real part of our everyday life, not just an academic pursuit. It's amazing to think that in little more than a month, two of those science students, Ryan Sisson (who has also been very involved in the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association's fish hatchery and Haliburton lake trout initiative) and Adam Bathe will be going to Antarctica to be part of a research team. Most people will never get such an opportunity; certainly few other Highlanders will ever be so fortunate. But they're going because they know that even though they're still teenagers, their efforts do help make this world a better place. What a great lesson.



Winter's arrival on Head Lake

by Len Pizzey/Echo

Don't let opinion replace fact

THIS IS TRULY A PERSONAL perspective prompted by the inanity emanating from our television set on American news channels since their great election mess up. It's become a game in our house: How few sentences or even words are uttered by the person being interviewed before the speaker can be labelled a Democrat or a Republican. Sadly, never many, for what is becoming obvious is that south of the border, discussion has no place in politics. Opinions have become confused with fact.

It is a sad state of affairs when everyone becomes so certain of the correctness of their position that there is no longer room for discussion. This now seems to be an almost inevitable result of many years of conversation trends evident, at least in the regions where we lived, over a period of years.

We learned while first living on the east coast to tip toe around most any subject in casual conversation for one never knew what opinion might offend. We were fortunate that Bill worked with a group of mainly foreign, English speaking people and so we could have many lively discussions. Not so at social gatherings with our American friends. So many seemingly innocuous subjects had advocates offended by another point of view.

We came home and for the few years we were here we felt liberated. Discussion was alive and well within the confines of our land. Off we went then to California assuming that in that state, where anything and everything goes, discussions would be lively. Quickly we learned that cocktail conversation, that ability to chat and say absolutely nothing, had become a finely tuned art form. No subject of any consequence from boy scouts to bolsheviks could be brought forth because someone would be offended.

It became evident that the one strong guiding force on most issues was self-interest and self-interest obviously must be protected from external assault and therefore cannot be open to rational examination, i.e. not a subject for discussion. Unfortunately when a society no longer puts its

social prerogatives under the microscope, thus denying the opportunity to find any flaws, such absurdities as are occurring south of the border are inevitable.

Since returning to Canada we have seen this same tendency gaining strength. Advocates for each side hold certain opinions to be facts beyond examination and see their role as obtaining converts. These advocates make statements and use only those examples which will reinforce their position. All who disagree are seen as the despoilers. How much more rewarding would be open and interesting discussions with pros and cons. Perhaps there could be some willingness to hope that we others have some common sense. It's possible that as a result of real discussion better solutions could be found.

In this region, for example, there are two major issues that cannot be discussed rationally. Just mentioning them in this column will bring down the wrath of many on my head. The two subjects? Gun legislation in our nation and the public education in our province. I for one would benefit from rational presentations. I'm not an advocate for any position. I am relatively ignorant of the issues, but totally uninterested in presentations that see only one point of view.

Joe Clark, interviewed on CBC radio shortly before the election, prefaced one comment with the words "Of course, that's a biased comment." What a breath of fresh air! In that phrase he acknowledged that he had a strong opinion but that other opinions on the subject were possible.

We need, each of us, to examine the many opinions that we hold to see if any have drifted from opinion into self-proclaimed fact and therefore are no longer up for discussion. If we continue to move along the road of advocacy away from meaningful discussions we will fossil and probably soon look as absurd as the Americans. Same old rhetoric, no willingness to look at any other point of view. The question is obvious, how can any society call itself democratic when discussion is so effectively self-muzzled?



marion hare

perspectives

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advertising manager LES FEERO

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THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO
is a locally owned independent newspaper serving Haliburton County. Established in 1884, it has been in continuous publication for more than 116 years.
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Highland St. & Cedar Ave., P.O. Box 360,
Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
PHONE: 705 457-1037 FAX: 705 457-3275
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I can name that tune in 3 notes

I have a confession to make. I have been, for most of my life, a pop music junkie. I grew up changing the radio in the car from station to station so that I could sing along (and I use that term loosely!) as my mother drove, and I just drove my mother crazy. Well, this past weekend, I revisited my youth through song and I have to tell you, I'm still in a bit of a haze.

It all started on Saturday when the kids and I were doing our usual spit and polish of the house. To galvanize everyone including myself into action, I switched on music from the satellite dish. The non-stop strains of "The 70's" came booming through the speakers and soon Soph was Swiffing to Sedaka and I was in heaven.

Nothing can evoke a memory faster for me than music and in those few short hours, I was transported back to life in Ottawa when I was young and boy-crazed and oh so wrought with teenage trials and tribulations.

I have always had a far better memory for pop songs than say math formulas or specific dates in history, but I even amazed myself with my trivial prowess on Saturday. No more than three notes were needed for me to shout out



anne
creelman

the name of the song, the artist singing and often the year it came out. The kids were in awe as they watched their normally sedate mother (ha ha) mop the floor while yelling out things like "Minnie Ripperton - Lovin' You" and "Pablo Cruise - I go to Rio". There was a whole disco set that saw me Hustle with Mr. Clean through all of the bathrooms.

Not only could I tell them more useless information than they ever need know about each song but also my personal history surrounding each song. I rather think it was a bit of an education for my three as they saw a side of their old mother that involved dancing, carousing and dare I say, boys!

I didn't go into all of the gory details, only enough to elicit comments like "What were high-waisted pleated pants?", "Is Peter Frampton still alive?" and "You mean you knew boys other than Daddy?" Some questions I could answer with great clarity, like who was at my surprise birthday party when "Kung Fu Fighting" was brand new and how much I paid for my Elton John "Captain Fantastic" Album. It is absolutely amazing what one remembers.

With other questions I was deliberately vague, since I am drawing ever nearer to becoming the mother of teenagers and there are some things about one's past that are better left there.

Just when the kids thought they had seen it all however, I don't know if anything could have prepared them for what happened Saturday evening. I was out in my writing area with the girls when Max emerged from the television room and said, "Dad said Barry Manilow is in concert on tv and you should come on in". You can just imagine the rest of the story. There I was singing along with Barry Manilow and remembering all over again. I think by this time, the kids had had enough and although my mate watched with me, he said he would deny ever having been present. I, however, make no excuses for thoroughly enjoying the undisputed King of Pop music. He sang them all and quite well I might add. My whole life played out with songs like "Mandy", "Looks like we made it" and "Copa Cabana". When he got to "Weekend in New England" my eyes misted over as I remembered walking along a New Brunswick beach with my boyfriend Fraser Robb. If there was ever anyone who captured the angst of young love, it was Barry Manilow. Sigh!!

It was a great night of entertainment and I find myself still smiling thinking about the whole day.

I've certainly moved onward from those days of the '70s and I'd like to think upward. I've got a great life now thank you very much. But I recognize that I couldn't have arrived at the place I'm at now without having first gone through those turbulent teenage years. So when I hear those songs from the days of my youth, I do smile and get sentimental because they were a part of my growing up. They are a nice place to visit but I'm sure glad I don't live there anymore.



pic of the past

THE WINTER OLYMPICS helped popularize women's hockey, but as this photo shows, women's hockey has been around for a long time. The woman second from the left is the late Ethel Curry, and since she went away to school, the team might have been in Lindsay or Toronto. she was born at the turn of the century so the photo is probably circa 1920. Our thanks to Sheila Popple for sharing it with us.

letters to the editor

Apologies for clinic's early closure

To the Editor:

On behalf of Canadian Blood Services I would like to thank everyone that attended the blood donor clinic on Monday, Nov. 20th. To our volunteers and donors a huge thank you. The clinic start at noon was delayed due to weather conditions.

By 1:00 p.m. we had a line up of people including many students from the high school (dressed in PJ's). Many of these students were first time donors. Many others travelled quite a distance to attend the clinic.

Unfortunately at 2 p.m. the weather conditions changed and for safety reasons we were forced to close the clinic. Everyone who helped support this clinic knew how important it is to be a donor and that one unit of blood could help save up to four lives. To donors who arrived after the clinic was closed, we apologize.

Thank you to everyone in the community, churches, stores,

companies and community groups who help us advertise the clinic dates. We will be back in Haliburton on Monday, March 5th, 2001.

Sue Harris,
Clinic Recruitment

Drive cautiously as winter arrives

To the Editor:

This year with the earlier arrival of snow, we may be in for a longer winter season. Motorists are asked to please,

- Use reduced speed on snow covered and icy roadways
- Leave a little extra time to get to your destination
- Be sensible about alcohol consumption
- Be aware of the construction

especially on Highway 35 south of Minden.

I would also remind motorists that we are entering the festive season and the OPP will be stepping up the number of RIDE programs in order to deter drinking drivers and prevent personal tragedies caused by those drivers.

Staff Sergeant Bob Walli,
Haliburton Highlands OPP

Haliburton parade was the best ever

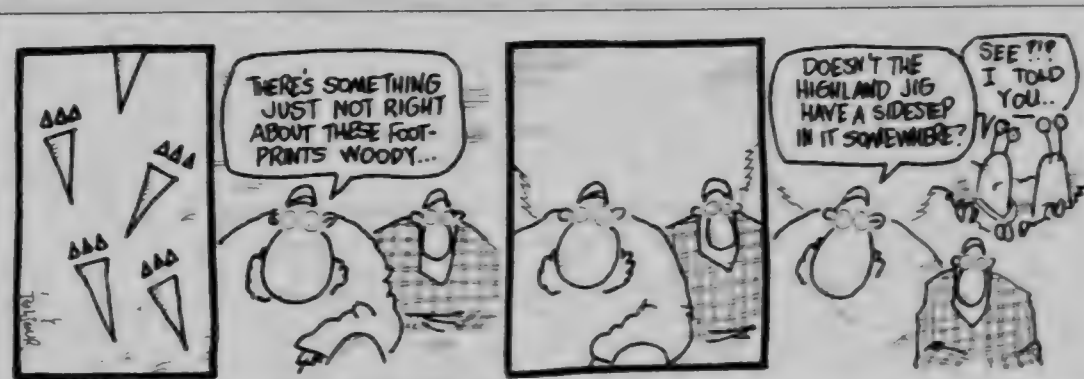
To the Editor:

I would like to extend an enormous thank you to everyone who participated in the Haliburton Santa Claus parade.

It was the greatest parade we have had for quite some time. BRAVO!

Maureen Vickery
Haliburton

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur





The arrival of winter meant the arrival of fun at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School and Stuart Baker Elementary School in Haliburton. Last week students spent part of their lunch rediscovering what happens when plastic and a snowy hill combine.

Photos by
Martha
Perkins

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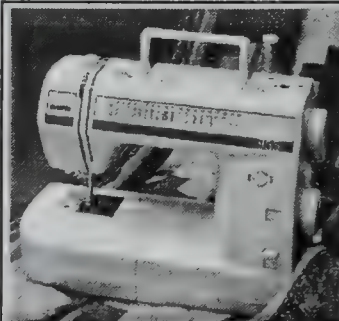
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Exchange student sticks to English for greetings home

A few weeks ago we received this e-mail from the Haliburton teen who's on Rotary Exchange.

by TRACY TIBBITTS

HELLO from Chambéry, France! Hope you are all doing good. Sorry it's been a long time since I wrote, but I've been sooo busy!

First of all, I am officially on vacation. In France, you go to school from eight o'clock to five thirty, but you get one week of vacation in October, two at Christmas, two in February, and two in April, as well as the two months in the summer. It's nice, but getting up at six thirty in the morning but sort of stinks. Still, weekends are well earned.

Classes are going well. I am no longer in the agricultural class (yippee!!!!), but instead take a history/geography class about 19th and 20th Century France. It's a good class, but it's

a year ahead so it moves fast. I haven't a clue what's going on. It's actually pretty funny.

I am doing well in my other classes, though. I do my homework, and everyone thinks I'm really smart. Actually, some of the classes I've taken before, and know the material. I'm still in aide (for two hours a week, eight or nine of the most deserving students get individual help in math and French), and it's really funny, because the teachers talk in English to try to help me, except that they don't know English, and wind up saying random words in a very heavy accent. My math teacher is the worst for this. I never know what he's saying in English, because he knows four words; three, go, same, okay. He loves to use them, and I can't help but laugh.

My French is coming along nicely. I more or less understand my teachers and friends, but only if they talk a little slower

than normal. I can speak more fluently, although I do leave something to be desired grammar-wise. I never use the right tense. I can write a little better, and I'm now reading children's books (which is nice, but I need to read Voltaire for French. No clue what's going on!)

I've been very busy with my host family and the Rotary Club. I climbed the croix du nivelet, a tiny mountain (only 4500 feet!). I spent the day with other exchange students in Grenoble, a neighbouring town (after my host family got really lost trying to find the place!). I attended the dinner with the ladies, where the Rotarians, which are mostly men, bring their wives to dinner.

I resumed taking french horn lessons while I'm here, at least until Christmas. They are great! The last time a played my horn was the end of may, so I lost my embusher and now sound like a sick cow, as mom so affection-

ately puts it. I have also discovered Carrefour, a HUGE store. It's one store, but it sells everything. I walked from the C.D section to the fresh meat section, just for an example. It takes ten minutes to walk from end to end. I love that store!

Well, that's about it. I have been getting lots of e-mails and letters from everybody, so I'll try to give a bit of a response to everybody now.

Sarah Billings: Nice picture of you and Liane. I'm still waiting for some written words!

Margaret Berubé: Still playing your baritone? E-mail me!

Mr. Brohman: Definitely my favourite principal!

Mrs. Dawson: French people love the maple syrup!

Liane Dron: Where's your e-mail? I sent mine!

Drew Carey: I'm out of Farm class! Hope you're good!

Ashleigh Grech: Waiting for the picture to brighten my life!!!

Raymond Shim: Lost Justin's

e-mail address. Can you send it again?

Tal Pothaar: A postcard is coming. Enjoying the American life? Can't use ICQ. The internet is too expensive here.

Bob and Wendy Park: How's the expansion coming?

Mel Rowell: How's school? What are you taking this year? Any new tattoos?

Grandpa and Ann: Hope you are all good. Glad to hear grandpa's feeling better. There are lots of fish waiting for you!

Susan Subject: I love your last name! Thanks for the card. Send me your address and I'll send you a postcard!

Auntie Laurel: Hi! thanks for the cool forwards that brighten my day!

Uncle Bruce and Aunt Zandra: Are you in the Bahamas yet?

Beano. Sorry the letter is so impersonal, but I promise to write one just for you. Keep out of trouble, do your homework, and don't kill my cat!

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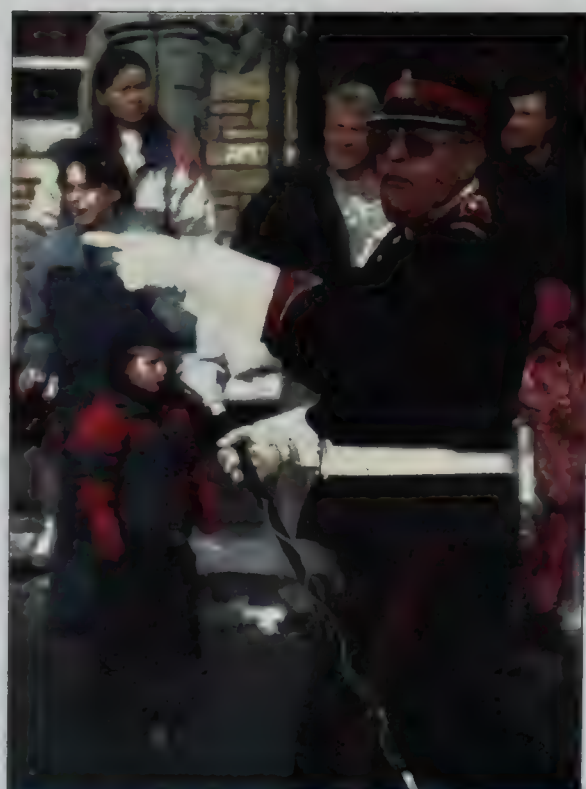
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Hello Minden, here comes SANTA CLAUS



Photos by
Cathy Olliffe



Minden got in the Christmas spirit on Saturday when the annual Santa Claus parade wended its way along the village's main street. Children were delighted by the efforts of everyone involved. Afterwards, they gathered at the fire hall to share their wish lists with Santa

Four families lose homes in Wagon Wheel apartment fire

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Four families lost most of their possessions when a fire destroyed a group of apartments at the Wagon Wheel Motel south of Minden on Thursday.

Two of the four tenants were in the older wood building when a tenant of a nearby cabin knocked on their door and told them the building was on fire just before one in the afternoon, says Ralph Steffensen, who owns the Wagon Wheel with his brother.

Those tenants – a couple and a single woman with a dog – were able to gather some of their possessions and all of their pets and escape unharmed.

The other tenants were not in the building and lost everything.

The Red Cross and Minden food bank have already contacted all of the families to offer assistance.

Two of the tenants are now living temporarily in the motel portion of the business.

Luckily, neither the main building which houses the restaurant or the motel

unit were damaged by the fire.

"I was lucky," Steffensen said. "One of the hydro wires came down but it didn't do anything."

He'd like to thank the Minden fire department for its efforts to save the building and notes their task was made more difficult by the need to go back and forth from the nearby pond to get water.

Seventeen firefighters, including some from Stanhope, responded to the call, Fire Chief Bill Hogg said. The fire department spent most of Thursday at the scene, not leaving until 9:30 at night. They were called back at six the next morning because of a flare up.

One firefighter was slightly injured when a piece of roof collapsed on his shoulder.

Hogg says it appears the fire started in the building's utility room, which housed a furnace and an oil hot water tank. It's believed the cause of the fire likely had something to do with the furnace.

The building is insured and Steffensen plans to rebuild as soon as possible.

OPP photo/submitted



A Minden firefighter works on saving the building that housed four apartments at the Wagon Wheel Hotel south of Minden.

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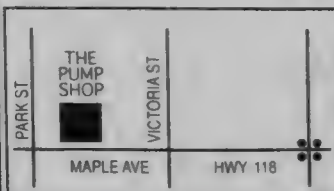
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Bantams' winning streak brings end to their slump

by NICOLE COOPER

Last Tuesday night the Husky Bantam A's broke the losing streak in an exciting game against Beaverton. The boys took a quick lead thanks to Joel Johnson, who scored the first two goals assisted by Joey Sisson, Joel Cooper and Jesse Johnson (who was a very nice addition to the team). The third goal for us was by Sisson who tucked her home off a shot from Joel Johnson. Assist also went to Cooper. To end the first period Matt Roberts would score unassisted to make the scoreboard read 4-0.

In the second Beaverton stole two goals from goalie Jeremy Moynes, who had a great game. Joel Johnson would end the second by getting his third of the night, assisted by Sisson and Norm Smith. Beaverton would score once more to make the final score Haliburton 5, Beaverton 3. Excellent game goes to Joel Johnson with the hat trick and one assist and Joey Sisson with one goal and three helpers.

The boys didn't stop their winning there though. They travelled to Omeme over the weekend and participated in a 12-team tournament. In the tourney the boys played four games, two of which were won in a shoot out.

In their first game on Friday against Clarington, they went into OT with the

score 2-2. Shawn MacInnes and Matt Roberts scored our goals. Helpers went to Adrian Winn and Jeremy Miscio. In the first round of shooters, Miscio and Johnson were the two out of five that scored. Clarington scored two as well sending into sudden death, where Matt Roberts would score to win it for us.

The second game against Waterloo sent us to OT again. In regulation play, our only goal was by MacInnes assisted by Roberts. In the Shoot out the Johnson boys, Joel and Jesse would score to give us the victory.

The third game, which would send Haliburton to the semi-finals, was against Thamesford. We won 2-1. The first goal was a beauty peanut butter shelf goal by MacInnes, assists going to Jason Chambers and Coop. The second was by Joel Johnson assisted by Miscio and MacInnes.

With only an hour's rest since their last game the Bantams faced Waterford in the semis. Waterford defeated us 5-2. Miscio scored the two goals, assisted by Matt Rail.

Great tournament by Shawn MacInnes to whom the team sends a fast recovery so that he can get his "heart" back in the game. Also, a nice weekend by Matt Roberts, Travis Berke with some good defense and Big Norm Smith, who received last game's MVP award.

Husky Home Game Schedule

Dec. 1, Atom vs Woodville, 7:00
Dec. 1, PeeWee vs Sunderland, 8:30
Dec. 2, Novice B vs Bobcaygeon 4:00
Dec. 2, Atom vs Newcastle, 6:30
Dec. 2, PeeWee vs Mariposa, 8:00
Dec. 3, Atom B vs Cannington B2 5:15
Dec. 5, Bantam vs Minden, 7:15

Dec. 5, Midget vs Ops, 8:45
Dec. 8, Atom vs Ops, 7:00
Dec. 8, PeeWee vs Mariposa, 8:30
Dec. 9, Bantam vs Mariposa, 8:00
Dec. 10, Novice vs Sunderland, 3:00
Dec. 10, Midget vs Cannington, 7:00 (in Minden)



BOB LEFROY/Echo

The Huskies receive their trophies at Saturday's tournament in Haliburton.

Atom A's make their A finals

by PATTI TALLMAN

The Gary Burtch Construction / Valu Mart Atom A Huskies hosted a very fine tournament on the weekend playing host to seven visiting teams. From a very well organized schedule of games with a tremendous amount of support from each parent to the entertainment provided by Sharon Sachs, the tournament was a great success. The visiting teams were from Bracebridge, Nobleking, Toronto, Sutton, Beaverton, Penetang and Woodville.

The Huskies started the day off with the first game at 9 a.m., playing again at 2 p.m. and going on to compete for the A Championship that night at 8 p.m.

The day was filled with lots of excitement for everyone, the team showing once again, how to play the game of hockey.

They won their first game in a nailbiting overtime beating Bracebridge 3-2, then winning the second game hands down against Sutton with a score of 4-1.

They progressed on to the final playing for the A championship.

The team had an excellent day of solid passing, good checking and persistent defensive plays by each player on the team. Scoring was by Ryan Scheffee, Mitch Vasey, Tyler Watson and Max Ambridge. Assisting Stephen Miscio, Mitch Vasey, Kenton Winn, Tyler Watson and Dallyn Smith, with some awesome plays made by each player including Adam DeCarlo, Jesse Tallman, Matt Johnston, Daniel Paul, and of course Ian Sachs for his awesome consistent goaltending. Way to go guys, be proud!

The parents of the Atom A team wish to thank Scottie for his participation in the tournament and thank the ice time sponsors and the Huskie Minor Hockey sponsors for their support. A very special thank you to the dedicated parents of the Atom A team who helped make the tournament day a great success.

The team is at home Friday night at 7 p.m. and Saturday night at 6:30 p.m.

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Mites are back, and they're still mighty

by WADE MACINNES

Haliburton Mites!!! They're back, those elf like hockey stars who delight us immensely.

After a rigorous eight week training camp the final cuts were made and the 12 man roster was filled. Returning from last year's squad are Zack Boice, Stewart Chaulk, Riley Tait, Liam Wilcox and Donovan MacInnes. The rookies who made the line up are Tyler Barry, Nick Hunter, Nathan Feir, Tyler Stoughton, Connor Holowachuk, Jacob Sisson and Dell Myers.

With Sisson and Myers holding out for contract disputes the Huskie pups hit the ice in Minden for their first pre-season game. The Huskies were dumbfounded by the loud wall to wall capacity crowd at the game and the Monarch's Jordon Howe tallied Minden's first goal. Less than a minute later Zach Boice and Nate Fair combined to spring Tyler Barry in on a breakaway and the rookie showed great hands beating the Minden tender low to the stick side.

The pace was staggering and early in the second frame Big Stew Chaulk broke in and found mesh with a beauty wrist shot, with assists going to

Riley Tait and Nick Hunter. The monarchs stormed right back on the next shift with Ben Hicks tying the game at two.

Before the end of the second period the Huskies took the lead again when Liam Wilcox got the puck to Tyler Stoughton in turn touch passed to Doni MacInnes who broke in over the Monarch blue line and like "Uncle Al" let a howitzer go bulging the Minden twine. It went in so fast that MacInnes didn't realize he had scored until buddy Stew Chaulk gave him a hug and told him.

the feisty Minden gang didn't roll over tied the game with three minutes left in the third on a beauty breakaway by Jacob Harrison. Haliburton coaches Barry Boice, Dean Chaulk and Brad Tait, calmed the troops and put a late minute plan in motion. It worked as the Huskies scored the game winner. It went MacInnes to Holowachuk to Barry to Chaulk and in the net. The Huskie fans went Nuts!! What a terrific season opener.

If you want to catch some of this awesome Hockey action forget the NHL and come to the Dysart Arena at 1 p.m. on Sat. Dec. 2 for the rematch. You won't be disappointed.

Minor Tykes wrap up round one

by Nanci Hunter

The Husky Minor Tykes were off to Bobcaygeon Thursday night. The skills of both teams improved so much over the weeks that it was action all the way. With both sides getting many chances to score, it wasn't until half way through the first that Cole Rowden popped one in the net, assisted by Marc Dobie and Dillon Upton. Late in the first, Jonathon Salvatori put one in with help from Dalton Morrison to give us a 2-0 lead.

The second period was tense with the plays going back and forth. The defensive skills of Marlee Gadway, Samantha Tallman and Mike Mazara

played a key role in keeping the plays near center ice. It wasn't until the middle of the third that the team of Brett Yake and Rob Lewis put in two more goals for the blue and white.

Ryan Hunter was between the pipes this time and made some good saves. Haliburton won 4-1.

The Huskies played hard and it paid off. Scoring in the first were Dillon, Brett, Dalton, Ryan and Marlee.

At the first of the second, Brett won the face off and took the puck to score. Just in case anyone missed it, he did an instant replay a few more times in his shift. Filling up the scoresheet was Marc with a hat trick and a single by Jonathon. Cole and

Samantha were passing the puck like pros and Mike, who might want to consider joining football as well, was superior in his defensive skills.

Rob tended to the net this time and made some spectacular saves and while getting a piece of the puck once, didn't quite get enough of it and the puck slide through the pads.

The Huskies have had a victorious first round, winning all eight games. It couldn't have been done without the coaching staff of Ron Yake, Bernie Upton and Don Lewis. Thanks to Rowden Construction and Curry Motors for their support and sponsorship.

PeeWees' battle against Orono excellent game to watch

by ROY BURK

On Fri. Nov. 24 the OMHA PeeWee Huskies had to fight their way out of the county due to the snow conditions and still had a battle to face when they got to Orono. The game started off fast and furious and went with end to end play. Neither team could keep it in their opponent's end for very long. Finally, someone broke the scoreless tie with just 28 seconds left in the first period and luckily it was our side. Tim Pettit found the back of the net with the help of Adam Sisson.

The second period was even a better game of hockey. Both teams kept the pressure up but couldn't score. The defensive match up of Jamie Timbers with Justin Abbs and Ryan Bottum with Jeff Burk stood their ground. They limited the number of scoring chances by being both physical and smart.

The third period had a slow start due partially to the ice being wet and both teams testing each other. Unfortunately, the Leafs tied the game just minutes into the period. Chris Johnston had played an excellent game up till now and got

even better after the goal. He stopped several screened shots and blasts from the point. With just a minute and ten seconds left, Aaron Donaldson took a pass from Jonathon Sharpley and danced his way through Orono players and gave the Huskies back the lead. Orono pulled their goalie and came close a couple of times to tying it up. But a second effort by Kevin Crofts, enabled Jesse Johnson to pounce on the puck and give us an empty net goal.

This was an excellent game to watch and the penalties were low with total of three. Nice win.

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Sir Sam's Ski Area and Ski Patrol busy long before hill opens (and that's scheduled for December 9!)

Most people don't start to think of skiing until December when the hills open. Unless of course you are a resort operator or a ski patrol member. In both situations, the season doesn't really end due to summer maintenance, planning, recruiting and training for the new season.

Now that the "chilly" weather is upon us, it is time for skiers and boarders to get ready too. Here are some of the events and activities planned at Sir Sam's Ski Area in Eagle Lake:

Proceeds from a November 17-18-19 ski and snowboard swap in Haliburton will help Sir Sam's Ski Patrol to upgrade equipment to better serve our clients. Thanks to Glen Sharpley Sports for the use of their summer store to hold the swap.

The Ontario Track 3 Ski Association will be active at Sir Sam's this winter,

helping young people with varying disabilities who, through the challenge of skiing, have discovered that they can lead active and productive lives. This group of volunteers helps youngsters who are amputees, affected by debilitating disabilities such as spina bifida and cerebral palsy, brain injured, autistic, and children with spinal cord injuries.

The Bishop family recognizes the importance of supporting all people in their community, which is why they're bringing this program to Sir Sam's. If you want to know more about the program, want to volunteer your support or know someone who would benefit from participation, call Sir Sam's at 754-2298.

As the season progresses, the Ski Patrol will keep you posted about the many special events at Sir Sam's. And if Frosty co-operates, join them for opening day on December 9th!



FILE PHOTO/Echo

A lot of skiers and snowboarders are anxious for this year's season to begin at Sir Sam's. A new program is about to start, helping young people with various disabilities discover the joys and challenges of the slopes. If you know someone who would benefit, please call the ski hill.

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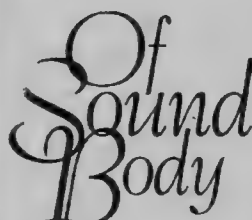
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Minden fights valiantly, but Novice As hold on

by SHERRILL SHERWOOD

Haliburton County hockey fans were treated to an exciting show of local talent when Minden Novice A's came to Haliburton to challenge the Husky A team on Nov. 22.

Keaton Gadway greatly helped out the short-handed Haliburton team on defense.

Brady Yavis did some fancy circling moves followed by a perfect shot into the net to begin the scoring. His excellent passes to Scott Griffith allowed Scott to let loose at the Minden net twice in the first period, with one going in and the other resounding off the crossbar.

Minden scored once to end the period 2-1 Haliburton.

Both goalies were hot in the second period, giving Official Scorer Bill Hartin a break from paperwork.

Effective line passing through the intense Minden defense garnered a goal

for the Huskies, making it 3-1. Brady Yavis' remarkable game continued into the third period with another goal.

When Haliburton scored again, it looked like the Huskies would be sure of a victory. Obviously a team not used to quitting, Minden put on enormous pressure and came up with 4 goals to tie it up at 1:45 left. The shocked Husky players redoubled their efforts and a determined Jay Winfield scored with :21 left in the game. Minden came on strong until the last second but couldn't get one in.

Haliburton won 6-5.

Two nights later, the Huskies travelled to Cannington to play the undefeated Sunderland team. Fast back and forth movement paused briefly when Daniel Sisson broke through Sunderland's defense wall and propelled a black blur into their net. Haliburton would stay one ahead until the third period despite many hard shots against the blue and white's goalie, Nathan Woodcock.

Cheers rang loud through the arena when the home team scored in the third period to put them ahead 2-1. C.J. Clarkson's pass to Ryan Sherwood proved very fruitful when Ryan hustled his way past the persistent Sunderland players and passed the puck in front of the net to the always ready Cole Scheffee. Cole's goal made it a tie game until the end, 2-2.

Woodville trekked to Haliburton on Nov. 26. The first

two periods were close with Haliburton edging ahead 2-1. Defensemen Lane Schmid, J.L. Frybort, Jarrett Donaldson and Daniel Sisson foiled Woodville's spunky group, wearing them down and allowing the forwards to continue scoring until the end of game buzzer rang and the board read 5-1 Home. Nathan Woodcock's impressive goaltending skill was a major boost in all three games.

Snowmobilers urged to be extremely cautious

Despite early snowfalls last week, snowmobile trails in Ontario are not open and conditions are not yet safe for riding. All water crossings remain open and hazardous.

The Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs is warning snowmobilers that clubs have not completed trail preparations to place signs, clear up fallen trees, open gates and remove fences.

There is no snow base to cover natural obstacles and barriers, so snowmobiling should be considered extremely dangerous until freeze-up occurs and normal grooming operations commence.

Please check with your local club before you attempt to go snowmobiling.

Novice Bs Huskies find solace in win as they lick their wounds in Bobcaygeon loss

by WENDY SISSON

Tuesday night saw the Novice B Huskies travelling to Minden. In their last meeting, the Monarchs had the upper hand, but Haliburton was ready for them this time.

This was a game with a lot of skating action and both goalies having to make crucial saves. Early in the first period, Craig Cooper was strong at the Minden blue line, making some great long-armed moves to keep the offensive play alive. Then, with one minute left, Drew Paul raised the puck at the net to give the Huskies a 1-0 lead, assisted by Luke Watson and Keaton Gadway.

In the second Curtis Nichol was strong in net and quick on his feet to deny Minden's offense access to his-netted territory. The third gave way to some penalty-killing strategies where Kevin Cooper made some heads up clearing plays to get the puck out of the Haliburton defensive zone.

But the play of the game came in the dying seconds when Riley Sisson caught his man from across the ice, blocking the shot and making a great contribution to the 1-0 victory.

The next game would be in Bobcaygeon for the Huskies and the Cougars' first meeting. Bobcaygeon came on strong in the first minutes and Huskies found themselves four goals down and scrambling to get the puck into the opponent's end. Then at the end of the first, Adam VanNood scored on a breakaway to end the period 1-4. In the second the Huskies seemed to gain their composure to give the Cougars a fight for the game.

Brett Yavis would score in the third assisted by Luke Watson and Keaton Gadway. Jacob Woodward and Ryan Richards were seen helping out the defense in their end but it would be Bobcaygeon's victory this time, 7-2.

The Novice B's have had a good stretch of wins but a practice at the end of this week will be an uncommon and welcomed sight.

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Planned electronic link between municipal offices put on hold

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

It had been planned that this year, all municipal offices and the county office would be communicating with each other effortlessly because of investments in new technology and compatible software programs.

However, it appears the technological infrastructure in the county is still not good enough to allow this to happen. There have been too many instances of computers crashing and telephone lines going dead, county councillors said at Wednesday's meeting.

Still wanting there to be a seamless transfer of information between offices, county council agreed to support the

Chamber of Commerce's funding application for a needs study.

The Chamber has already received \$5,000 from Bell and is seeking another \$15,000 from other agencies.

"We lack speed," Snowden Reeve Ross Rigney said. "That's the real problem. We lack the infrastructure that gives us the speed."

It was agreed that centralized computer initiative would not advance until solutions are found to these problems.

One solution may be wireless technology, the county's new CAO said.

Gary King said his former employer, the town of Gravenhurst, is going to wireless communications because of the same problems.

"You're heading the right way," he told council.

Minden council briefs

New time-limited parking spaces created in front of county office

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from the Anson, Hindon and Minden Council meeting of November 23.

The parking spots in front of the Registry Office on Newcastle street will be designated as time-limited parking in the near future. One space will be reserved for 15 minutes, two spots for 30 minutes and the remaining spots will be designated two-hour parking.

Council is also requesting the county to remove the designated parking signs at the side of the county building on St. Germaine Street as the municipality actually owns the land.

Councillor Bill Obee noted it was a short walk to abundant parking at the municipal office.

LCBO

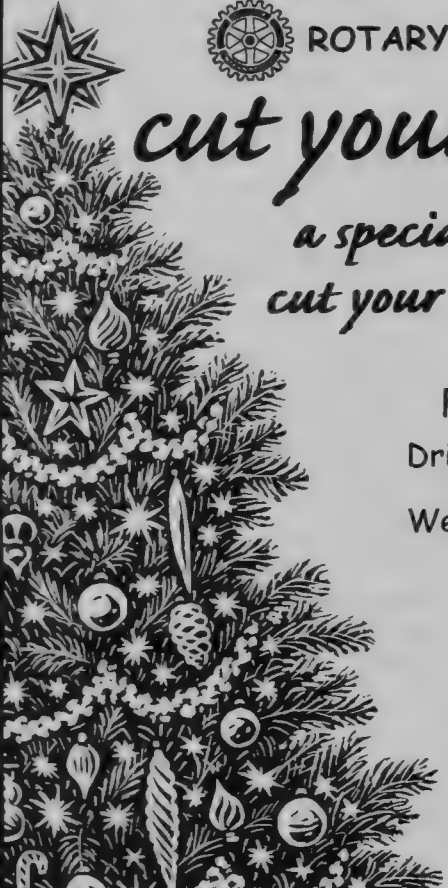
Council agreed it had no objections to the LCBO opening its doors on December 24 and December 31. While council cannot force the LCBO to close they were approached for their approval out of courtesy.

Waste

A hydro-geological study will have to be undertaken if Kernohan Septic Service is to continue using municipal land as a storage lagoon for solid waste after December 15.

The order for the study comes from the Ministry of the Environment.

Council decided the costs of the study would be the responsibility of the waste disposal company but Obee said council should do their best to help facilitate the process.



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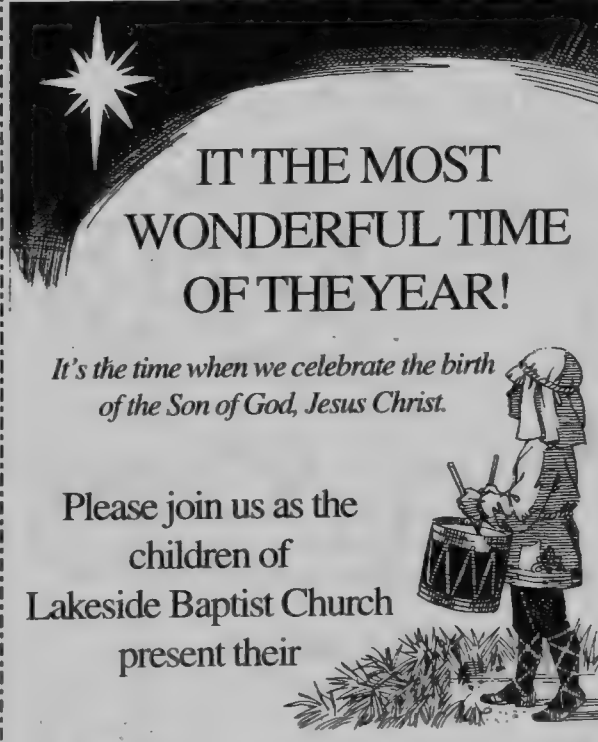
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Highlanders make their mark in wider world

MARTHA PEIKINS

Editor

Highlanders have been very active recently and we thought we'd highlight a few of their achievements.

Charlie Teljeur

The man who gives us the world of Boonieville has now wielded his creativity in the hockey arena.

Charlie Teljeur is the featured cartoonist on the CBC sports website. You won't find Gus, Woody and the gang, but you will find the same quirky and often irreverent outlook on life.

The debut of *The Instigator* shows a rather large and raucous family spilling out of a trailer marked NHL. The father, drink in hand, weary expression on his face, says "we have not plans for any further expansion at the present time." His wife, equally bleary eyed and holding a babe in her arms and cigarette in her mouth, replies "no kidding."

A blurb on the website says "Charlie Teljeur maintains a residence deep in the woods north of Toronto. He split his

childhood years between the streets of Scarborough and the lakes of Haliburton.

"Since completing his degree from Sheridan College's animation program, he has been adrift in The Sea of Freelance Cartoon Guys. CBC Sports is a welcome port for his rickety old ship."

"His passion for hockey has led him to create *The Instigator*, which has been running as a feature on the web for the last three years but is embarking on its first run here at CBC."

The cartoon, however, is being run on a trial basis, and the judges will be the viewers who click on the site. They're asked to help the website decide whether to keep Teljeur on as a permanent resident. So if you want to find Teljeur a home, visit www.cbc.ca and follow the links, first to sports, then to hockey, then to *The Instigator*. If you're a good typist and you want to go there directly, visit <http://cbc.ca/sports/hockey/hnic/instigator/index.html>.

Shirley Anne McCormick

Shirley Anne McCormick has published her first novella, *The Estate of Mrs.*

Pearl Whiteman, published by Boheme Press, which quotes Robert Priest calling this Minden resident "a strong and welcome new voice."

The book jacket says "one might see Bert McCarthy, an old bachelor, limping along the sidewalk, wearing a straw hat and breeches. You may wonder about his life, and the events that led him to the present. What fortified him through the



past? Why did he never marry? And what kept him on the farm all these years? You might be surprised at the stories he could tell. You might learn something about loving, if you paid attention. This sentimental look at Bert McCarthy's life provides an explanation for his life's choices.

"*The Estate of Mrs. Pearl Whiteman* takes us from 1920s Canada - from Bert McCarthy's childhood and his growing love for Pearl Varsey - to the years that followed and the regrets that ensued. It is a story about families and commitment and the socio-economic stresses that divided people - in friendship and in love.

"Shirley Anne McCormick reminds us that though true love is priceless, we sometimes overlook its cost and end up paying for it with our hearts."

Marilyn Rennick

Marilyn Rennick, who grew up in Donald where her mother Marjorie still lives, has earned the distinction of being the first recipient of Dalhousie University's School of Library and Information Studies' Outstanding Alumni Award.

A newsletter says "since graduating from Dalhousie in 1976, Rennick has held a variety of positions with the University of Ottawa. In her current position as government information specialist, her responsibilities encompass collections development, bibliographic instruction, specialized reference for government publications and committee work, conducting her work in English and French...

"Through the Canadian Library Association, she has been active on various committees, divisions, and interest groups. She has served as president of the Canadian Association of Schools of Library and Information Studies, a member of the national executive and in 1994, was the recipient of the CASLIS Award for Special Librarianship in Canada...

"Community activities include committee work in the parish of St. George Anglican Church, serving as chairperson and editing the newsletter for the Ottawa Area Committee Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, and member of the Urban Christian Outreach Board of Directors - a ministry focused on literacy for homeless and street people.

"With the Outstanding Alumni Award, we honour Marilyn Rennick for her energy, enthusiasm and commitment, and recognize her value contributions to the library and recognize her valuable contributions to the library and information management field."

She was presented her award at a reception in Halifax last month.



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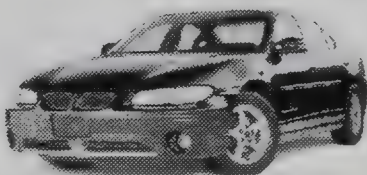
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Chamber introduces new marketing initiatives

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed in the business portion of last Wednesday's annual general meeting and dinner of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce at the Wigamog.

Several marketing initiatives are underway, Chamber manager Peter Rigby said in his first annual report.

Attempts are being made to lure groups of Japanese tourists to the Highlands. At present, their packaged trips to Ontario usually include stops in Ottawa, Algonquin Park, Muskoka, Toronto and the Niagara wine region. The Chamber is working to have that itinerary include Haliburton as an option.

Typically, groups of 15 to 30 Japanese tourists would stay for three to five days. They are looking for "soft adventure" such as hiking, biking, photography and canoeing.

There are also plans to do joint marketing with Muskoka.

Rigby noted that when people are making holiday plans, destination does not matter as much as product — things people can do once they arrive at their destination.

Joint venture

Seven businesses which offer roofed accommodation have banded together with other businesses to market winter mid-week packages in the Highlands.

Taking part with the accommodations are Winterdance dog sled tours, maple

syrup producers Waverley Brook Farms and Wintergreen, Sir Sam's Ski Area and the nordic trails association, which will through in a cross country ski lesson. Marketing will include the Chamber's 1-800 number.

When asked about other accommodations taking part, it was noted that the Chamber had advertised for participants and the seven included are the seven who replied. It's hoped that the initiative will act as a catalyst for other joint ventures.

Event funds

Meanwhile, the Chamber has received event marketing funds from the provincial and federal governments. Businesses and organizations can apply to access those funds for their own initiatives to attract more people to the Highlands. The policy says the Chamber will not consider any applications for funds to promote events locally or to support wages and other operational costs.

Applications must be received by the Chamber no later than the first business day of each month for consideration during that month.

Brand image

A policy has been drafted to control how businesses and organizations use the new brand image and slogan, A Natural Work of Art.

While everyone is encouraged to use the brand image as part of their own marketing initiatives in order to increase its profile, it cannot be used in any commercial applications. This restriction includes using the brand image on any-

thing which is sold for monetary gain.

There must also be a written request for use of the logo.

The Chamber, however, has just received a new line of hats, t-shirts and sweatshirts which use the logo. It will be selling them from Minden office.

The logo also is featured quite markedly on the new sign at the Hwy 35 office and will be used on welcoming signs in Dorset, Cardiff, Kinmount, Gooderham, Carnarvon and Lutterworth (where the welcome sign will replace the Where It's Art sign.)

Website

The three finalists in the bid to design the Chamber's new website were interviewed on Friday. The site will be a work in progress, starting with tourism (which should be up in January) and then expanding into economic development, community and municipal government.

The website will include a list of all businesses whether they are Chamber members are not. Businesses which already have a website and an e-mail address are asked to contact the Chamber.

The Chamber wants to establish a series of links that have the same look and feel. It also wants the site to give people a feel of what life in the Highlands is like by including information on recreational groups, the arts, churches and a bulletin board of events.

A domain name has not been finalized but the county has given permission to use its address of www.county.haliburton.on.ca.

Rigby said someone in Burlington has registered haliburton.on.ca and haliburton.ca.

Budget

With the infusion of money from the county and other governments, the Chamber knows it is not facing the risk of going into the red, treasurer Peggy Cassils reported.

Benefit plan

Dennis Casey reminded members that the Chamber's employee benefits plan also benefits the Chamber by adding about \$7,000 a year in revenues. The plan can cover a staff of one, he added.

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Sundown on Snowdon

by CATHY OLLIFFE

Special to the Echo

"Do you think this snow will last?" called out George Simmons as he headed through the parking lot towards the front door of the Township of Snowdon community hall.

The man who was Snowdon's reeve from 1988 to 1997 crossed lightly over a skiff of fresh snow, ironically to bid fond adieu to the township with snow in its name.

No matter how long the white stuff lasts, the Township of Snowdon will come to an end January 1, 2001, when it amalgamates with Lutterworth and Anson, Hindon and Minden to become Minden Hills. An open house, held November 19 in what once was the Gelert school, gave politicians, staff, friends and family a chance to talk about the good old days and to speculate on what the future will hold.

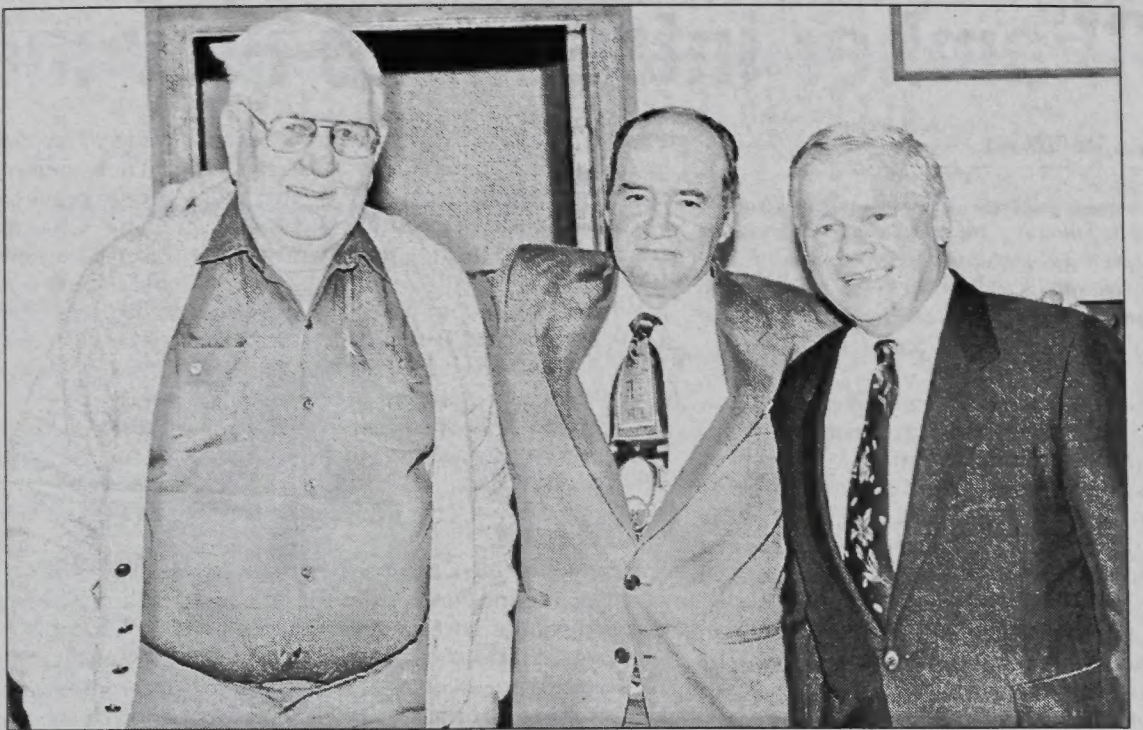
A coffee pot bubbled in the corner, goodies filled plates in a poinsettia-adorned table in the centre of the room and memorabilia straight out of Snowdon's history books was laid out on tables all around the outside of the room. There was a copy of the order from the Minister of

Municipal Affairs and Housing directing the amalgamation of Snowdon and its neighbours. That order was made in 2000 but it wasn't the first time amalgamation was at issue. Minutes from Snowdon council meetings in 1964 and 1968, also on display, reveal the matter had council's attention even then.

There were tax bills on display dating from the late 1800s. Isiah Hicks (great-great-grandfather of deputy reeve Dwain Wruth) was no doubt outraged when he paid \$15.36 in 1892.

There were minutes from the first Snowdon council meeting, held Jan. 19, 1863. Robert Ritchie was the first reeve and he was joined at the council table by Thomas Earl, Adam Garrett, Henry Phillips and Hiram Wilcox. That council table was likely a kitchen table – the meeting was held at the home of Barry Sawyer on Gull River.

There were newspaper articles about some of Snowdon's most famous sons, like Bob Vick, the longest-serving reeve in Snowdon's history (1967-88), and the late Bill Scott, who was reeve for only one term (1964-67). Scott, of course, was better known as one of the longest-serving MPs in the House of Commons. He secured the feder-



Snowdon Township's last trio of Reeves mugged for the camera at an open house in Gelert. From left is Bob Vick (reeve from 1967 to 1988) George Simmons (1988-97) and Ross Rigney (1997 to present).

al Progressive Conservative nomination in Victoria-Haliburton and was sent to Ottawa in 1967. Vick attended the open house in person and Scott's daughter Laurie, the local PC candidate in this federal election, came in her late father's stead. She also brought along a photograph of her father which will hang in the new Minden Hills township office along with photos of other former Reeves.

There were voters lists from the 1800s, lists of council members from 1962 to present, and copies of the 1953 census. At that time 474 people were listed as Snowdon residents. Today the permanent population is 673 but

the non-resident population is 1,890.

The largest display featured information about how the railway shaped the destiny of Snowdon, especially the Irondale, Bancroft and Ottawa Railway – The Great I. B. & O.

But probably the most interesting bit of history on display was the story of how Gelert got its name. It came from Beddgelert, meaning grave of Gelert. This is the item featured underneath a photo of a tombstone: "According to a story traditional in the village at the foot of Snowdon, where Llewellyn the Great had his abode, Gelert was a hound given by King John [in

Wales] to Llewellyn. On one occasion this favourite hound was missing when Llewellyn went to chase. On his return he found the hound smeared with blood, his child's bed in disorder, while the child was not to be seen. Thinking that the hound had devoured the child, the father killed Gelert with his sword. The child, awakened by the hound's dying cry, cried out from under a heap of coverings, and under the bed was found a great wolf which the hound had slain."

All of this history (some of it true, some of it more the stuff of

See **Minutes** page 23

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The draw will take place on December 22, 2000.

The draw this year will again be a donation made in the winners' name to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. The gift that keeps on giving!



Last year's winner was the Haliburton Tim-BR Mart. Forty-three groups participated in the challenge last year. Our help is needed again this year. Together we can make a difference!

**Take this opportunity to help
our community!
Get involved and have some
fun knowing that you are
putting a smile on many faces
this Christmas.**

Minutes from the first Snowdon council meeting of 1863 were on display

from page 22

legends) was compiled by Snowdon clerk Ernie Hills and staff, who somehow managed to get the job done despite amalgamation and election headaches.

Hills said that while he enjoyed taking a trip down memory lane he isn't upset by the closing of Snowdon Township's books. For some people the event "has a feeling of Brigadoon to it," but he feels "it's an opportunity with new challenges ... it hopefully will bring the area together in a very constructive way."

The open house was "just a nice way to close things out," Hills said. "There are a lot of memories here."

Unfortunately those physical memories have no "home." All the historical documents on display at the open house will go back into a cardboard box and stored improperly somewhere, likely in the new township office. Hills said the County of Haliburton needs to take the initiative to protect all local historical documents because there are no facilities anywhere in the County capable of doing so.

As Hills' team was preparing for the open house, "We realized how much of our history is disappearing ... some of the documents are so old that it was inappropriate to put them out on display because they would just fall apart in your hands."

There was also a living history at the open house. People like Jim Mitchell and Carl Dugan renewed



Guy, Betty and Laurie Scott were on hand to present Reeve Ross Rigney with a framed photograph of the late Bill Scott, a past reeve.

acquaintances with much laughter. Mitchell attended the Gelert schoolhouse when he was in Grade 1; Dugan drove him on his school bus. "He was a baddie," Dugan said with a wide grin. The former school bus driver also worked for many years for Snowdon as an assessor, a building inspector and as the guy "who looked after the dump," among other things. He's not in favour of the amalgamation. Mitchell is. Both care deeply for the area.

As does former reeve Simmons, who told the crowd how much he enjoyed his time at the council table. "It was a great honour to serve the community. The rewards

are immense."

Lois Rigney also had a good time at the open house, passing out plates of dessert and telling people she was missing the Haliburton Santa Claus Parade ("and I never miss that one") in order to be by her husband's side. She is the wife of Ross Rigney, the last reeve of Snowdon Township and the reeve-elect of Minden Hills.

"I recognized right away that I'd be the first reeve [of the new amalgamated township]," Ross Rigney said, "but it never dawned on me that I'd be the last reeve of Snowdon Township."

He told the Echo "it is sad" to say good-bye to the township "because Snowdon has a proud history ... but nothing here has changed. You still go to bed at night in Snowdon and you still get up in the morning in Snowdon. The only thing that has really changed is the letterhead."

And, oh yes, the new stuff has been ordered.



THE MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Appointments will be made to Committees for the term of Council beginning January 2001:

- Haliburton County Library Board
- Haliburton Museum Board

If you are interested in serving on these Committees, please submit your name to the Municipal Office prior to December 11, 2000.

Please call the undersigned at the Municipal Office for details.

Donna L. McCallum,
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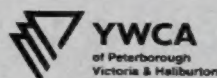
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Sir Sams Ski Hill
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HERS Draw Winners:

John Beachli - 1st - Print
Nancy Kursbat - 2nd - Reflecting Bowl
Wanda Auger - 3rd - 2 Afghans

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Brandon and Karen Joney
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Hitch'n Post, Hair Care
#1 Virginia Hopkins
#2 Allison Mack

Country House Dinner: Kim Drumheller

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Bonnie View Dinner

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New septic inspection program soon to be unveiled, county told

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

The province is about to introduce new policies about regular inspections of septic systems, county council was told by its representative on the district health unit's board.

Monmouth Reeve Keith Tallman says the Ministry of Environment has been meeting with representatives from cottage associations, health units, Conservation Authorities and other interested bodies to discuss ways to ensure septic systems face tougher controls to ensure they are working properly.

At present, septic systems are only inspected when they're installed and if they are visibly leaking or polluting.

For years, cottage associations and municipal governments have been arguing that's not good enough.

They want some sort of mechanism – perhaps a mandatory inspection every time the property changes hands – to

have systems inspected on a regular basis.

After months of meetings, the Ministry is almost ready to provide guidelines for local government that will include such things as legal considerations, administrative and funding strategies, criteria for inspections and public awareness.

In a letter to the district health unit, which had requested money to hire more inspectors, Minister Tony Clements "indicated he'd be getting back to us with some direction very soon," Tallman told county council on Wednesday. "He's quite supportive of what we're trying to do."

Warden Jeanne Anthon said that whatever the Ministry comes up with, "it has to be a complete package" that includes such things as enforcement.

Tallman agreed, saying "they are putting some teeth in the requirements to get the work done." However, he added, "they can put all the teeth in it they want, they'd better put some dollars with it, too."

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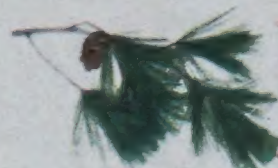
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